About the Music in Today's Service:

The prelude and offertory are two movements published together as "Pedalpoint and Passacaglia" by prominent Presbyterian composer Hal H. Hopson (1933-2025). During "Pedalpoint," a G in the bass is sustained throughout nearly the entire piece. In organ literature, this is usually played on a single pedal, sustaining the note without interruption. Hal Hopson infused this concept with a syncopated rhythm, sounding on beats 1, 2, and 4. As the rest of the notes sound, many dissonant and consonant harmonies occur in sequence, changing on nearly every single beat. The second movement of this piece (our offertory today), is titled simply "Passacaglia." A passacaglia is a specific musical form which originated in Spain during the early 1600s. It is usually built on a bass ostinato (repeated pattern), and is in triple meter (i.e. 3/4, 3/8, 9/8, etc.). The treble notes play a series of variations while the bass and middle notes continue the pattern. Hopson uses a variety of articulations, resulting in very short staccato and long legato notes.

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" is a very popular hymn around the world. The lyrics were written by Henry Jackson van Dyke, Jr. (1852-1933), a Presbyterian minister like his father before him. Van Dyke was a formidable figure in American society. He served as U.S. ambassador to the Netherlands and Luxembourg, chaired the committee which wrote the first printed Presbyterian liturgy, was a close friend of Helen Keller's, and officiated Mark Twain's funeral. Reverend van Dyke wrote this text specifically to be sung to Beethoven's 'Ode to Joy' from his ninth symphony. The entire hymn radiates joy from Creator to Creation and back again.

Walter Chalmer Smith (1824-1908), a Scottish pastor, wrote "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" based on 1 Timothy 1:17: "Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever." It is set to a Welsh tune, ST. DENIO, based on a ballad titled "Can mlynedd I nawr" ("A Hundred Years from Now"). The first published version of this tune is attributed to John Roberts, also known as Ieuan Gwyllt (Wild John). Roberts was a conductor, teacher, and Methodist minister.

Our final congregational hymn today was written by Andrae Edward Crouch (1942-2015), a native of San Francisco who grew up in Los Angeles. Andrae was the son of two pastors, Benjamin and Catherine Crouch. He described receiving the gift of music as a child, when his father was called to preach at a small rural church that had no musician. Crouch began playing keyboards at 11 and composed his first song at age 14. After a storied career as a gospel artist, he became a pastor alongside his twin sister, Sandra. Andrae Crouch won seven Grammies and four Dove Awards, along with ASCAP, Billboard, and NAACP Awards.

We close our worship service today with a beloved benediction, "God Be With You" with lyrics by Jeremiah Eames Rankin (1828-1904), a Congregational Minister from Connecticut. He sent it to two composers asking that they write a tune for it. He favored the composition of William G. Tomer (1833-1896), a teacher and Methodist Episcopal church music director from New Jersey. This tune is far and away the most well-known work of Tomer's life.

A Warm Welcome

We would love to have you join our church family. If you are moved to do by the Lord, please talk to one of the elders or our pastor.

If you enter the hospital, your church will have no way of knowing unless you notify us. Please let us know of your hospital stay so that we may respond with pastoral care.

OUR PARTNERS IN MISSION

ABUKLOI SECONDARY SCHOOL (Abukloi Foundation) Rembek, South Sudan
CHRIST FOR THE ISLAND WORLD Greensboro, NC, Indonesia
FRAISER, IAN & STEPAHNIE (VIA) Springdale, AR
PARTNER IN MISSION (FRONTIER FELLOWSHIP) Indonesia & Central Asia
LEE, MATTHEW & TERESA ((Wycliffe Bible Translators) Dallas, TX
PERROW, WILLIAM & WANDA (Open Arms Foundation) Medellin, Colombia
PARTNER IN MISSION (Paraclete Mission Group) US West Coast
SYDNOR, PAUL & REINHILD (TeachBeyond) Paris, France
WEHMEYER, DONALD & MARTHA (The Antioch Partners) Merida, Yucatan, Mexico

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad

Monday November 16 Noon	Men's Lunch & Bible Study
Monday November 16	CE Committee 4:30pm
Tuesday November 17	Morning Bible Study 10:30am
Tuesday November 17	Handbells 5pm
Tuesday November 17	Ladies Dinner 6pm
Wednesday November 18	Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm
Thursday November 19	Choir 4:30pm
Saturday November 21	Sat. Lunch Ministry

~Wednesday Night Dinner November 18th at 6pm. We will have lasagna, garlic bread, salad, a delicious dessert and tea. Team 1 is in charge. Please use the reservation form in the bulletin or call the office by noon Tuesday if you plan to attend. The Sydnors will present the program.

~The Saturday Lunch Ministry Thanksgiving Meal is scheduled for Saturday, November 21. This event is one of FPC's primary missions to the community – and we need lots of help. We will serve a full Thanksgiving, sit-down meal from 11:30-noon. If you can help, please contact the office or Jackie.

~The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany will host the community Thanksgiving service this year. The service will be at 7pm. Monday November 23rd Everyone is encouraged to attend.

SERVING TODAY

Minister of Discipleship	Jackson Weller
Music Director	Ashley Stanley-Robey
Video/Sound	Alex Walthall
Liturgist	Ray Beale
Greeter	Jackie Rochford
Side door/Offering	C.B. Strange
Counters	Reynolds/Ramey

List of Session members

Class of 2026: Ava Barrett, Barry Cutright, Gail Jones, Kim Wimer
Class of 2027: Harriet Beale, Pat Pinckney, Joan Reynolds, Kent Shelton
Class of 2028: Eddie Blount, Jr., Kathy Dolianitis, Jackie Rochford, Alex Walthall
Trustees: Bob Newnam, Ray Beale, Gary Wimer

2026 Budget Update

	September 2026	FY 2026
Revenue	$74,436.78	$347,947.12
Expenditures	$62,727.24	$375,131.27
Difference	$11,709.54	(- $ 27,184.15)

Scan the QR code for today's scripture readings.

THE COLUMNS OF THE

First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia

November 15, 2026

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome



This church opens wide its doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Celebrating 199 years of Knowing Christ and Making Him Known

First Presbyterian Church
937 Main Street, Danville, VA 24541-1809—434-792-7822
E-Mail: admin@fpcdanville.com
Website: http://www.fpcdanville.com

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad to them.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE **"Pedalpoint"** by Hal H. Hopson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
People: Knowing our creator meets us in this time of worship.
Leader: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
People: Trusting our redeemer to meet us with forgiveness and renewal.
Leader: We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
People: Relying on our sustainer to build us up for lives of love and service.
Leader: Let us worship together this day!

***HYMN#611** **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

INVOCATON

God, our kind and loving Parent, you no longer call us servants but friends. There is so much you have entrusted to us, even the future of your kingdom of justice and love. Give us the grace to work out with you the growth of mercy and goodness in this world, to be united with all Christians and with all who seek you with a sincere heart in bringing reconciliation and joy to everyone. Let us go together the way to you, our living and loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you are generous in the many ways you have gifted us. We have so many blessings be grateful for. Yet we are often motivated by fear, rather than our trust in you. We hold onto what we have, afraid we will never have enough. We become focused on protection rather than your call to welcome and love others. We see our blessings as our own, rather than seeing your care in each gift. Forgive us, God of grace. Forgive us and restore us to your vision for the world we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News! Although we have sinned, in Jesus Christ we are graciously forgiven. Be at peace. **Amen.**

SIGNS OF RECONCILIATION

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us the children of God, having confessed our sins and been reconciled to God, having been assured of God's graciousness and mercy, stand and offer that same peace and reconciliation to our brothers and sisters in Christ, forgiving each other and offering grace and peace.
Please remain standing for the "Gloria Patri."

***RESPONSE** *"Gloria Patri"*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Having heard of God's gracious love and care for all creation, let us give an offering of ourselves — all that we have and all that we are. Let us give our offering to God.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of grace and God of glory, we dedicate these gifts given this day to your work in the world. May these gifts bring hope and light to all who need it. Amen.

OFFERTORY **"Passacaglia"** by Hal H. Hopson

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN#12** **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, come to us in these words of scripture and proclamation and speak to us of your way in the world and in our lives. Amen.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURES:

(178/172)	Judges 4:1-7
(879/837)	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
(738/702)	Matthew 25:14-30

SERMON **"What Are We Doing?"** **Jackson Weller**

***HYMN#384** **Soon and Very Soon**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION **"God Be with You"**
William G. Tomer, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

***BENEDICTION**

***Please stand if able.**
*Hymn lyrics projected on the screen can be found in the "Glory to God" hymnal in the pew.

Sermon Notes: